

Serial No.: 10/059,697
Group Art Unit: 2157
Examiner: Sargon N. Nano

REMARKS

Claims 1-34 remain in this application. No claims have been amended or canceled.

Claims 1-34 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by *Kumar* et al. (6,269,080). Applicant respectfully traverses.

The presently claimed invention is directed at a system, apparatus, and method for facilitating acknowledgement of a request for altering a multicast group membership status in which a requesting system request membership in a group for receiving multicast information from a sender. Currently, requesting systems request or signs-in to a group for receiving information from a sender which transmits to the group members in a multicast distribution manner. However, there are no provisions for the sender to acknowledge back to each receiving system the status of their respective **memberships**. The presently claimed invention addresses the problem of prior systems not having a provision for notifying a requesting system when a particular **membership** request is lost or denied, for example. *Kumar* does not teach or disclose these aspects of the claimed invention.

Claim 1 states, receiving an Internet Group Management Protocol (IGMP) Membership Report message designating a request for altering a present membership status with respect to designated multicast information; and determining a membership action associated with the IGMP Membership Report message; and preparing a membership acknowledge message in response to determining the membership action, wherein the membership acknowledgment message designates a resulting membership status associated with the request for altering the present membership status; and transmitting the membership acknowledge message for reception by a requesting system. Applicant has review *Kumar*, and particularly those sections cited by the Office Action, and can find to teaching of the combination of aspects above-mentioned with regard to Claim 1. **Though *Kumar* does teach acknowledgements of whether a data stream was received by a receiving system (the sender sends an acknowledgement to the receiving system and the receiving system response with an answer), *Kumar* does not those aspects as above-mentioned.**

Since *Kumar* does not teach every element as arranged in Claim 1, it should be withdrawn as a reference under 35 USC 102(e). Applicant respectfully applies the same arguments to the other independent Claims 12, 13 and 24 as they contain similar elements as

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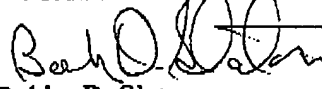
note above with regard to Claim 1. Therefore, Applicant believes all independent claims (and all claims depending therefrom) are distinguishable over *Kumar*.

CONCLUSION

For the above reasons, the foregoing amendment places the Application in condition for allowance. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the rejection of the claims be withdrawn and full allowance granted. Should the Examiner have any further comments or suggestions, please contact Bobby Slaton at (972) 519-2295.

Respectfully submitted,

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